

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated 03/29/2006, the Examiner has set forth a requirement for restriction pursuant to 35 USC § 121. The Examiner has restricted the claims into two Groups. Group I, claims 38 - 73, is drawn to a ceramic carrier wherein the pores comprise a second material, classified in class 501, subclass 1; Group II, claims 38 and 74, is drawn to a ceramic carrier wherein the pores comprise a general chemical or resin or petroleum derivative or explosive, classified in class 588, subclass 249. In addition, the Examiner has set forth that applicant is requested to elect a specific material to be contained within the pores of the ceramic carrier.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant has elected **with traverse**, Group I, claims 38-73, and further elected the species chemotherapeutic agents, specifically, MTX. The Restriction Requirement is traversed because the Groups are not independent and distinct, and there would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to search all the claims. The claims are all drawn to a preformed porous ceramic carrier comprising a second material. The general chemical or resin or petroleum derivative or explosive of Group II is a second material which may be incorporated into the preformed porous ceramic carrier, as in the claims of Group I. Therefore the Groups are not independent and distinct, as they all comprise a preformed porous ceramic carrier comprising a second material. In addition, since the claims are all drawn to a preformed porous ceramic carrier comprising a second material, there would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to search the subject matter of all the claims.

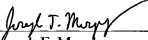
Applicant has provisionally elected **with traverse**, Group I, claims 38 - 73, drawn to a ceramic carrier wherein the pores comprise a second material, and further elected the species chemotherapeutic agents, specifically, MTX. Applicant believes that the foregoing is a full and complete response to the Office Action of record.

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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Please charge or credit our Account No. 03-0075 as necessary to effect entry and/or ensure consideration of this submission.
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